January 12, 2009

To the Public Works Committee

Subject: Traffic Mitigation Agreement with the
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Mitchell Interchange and I-94 North/South
Corridor Reconstruction

Dear Honorable Members:

In the years 2009 and 2010, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) will begin a four (4) year project to reconstruct the Mitchell Interchange and the I-94 North/South Corridor from the South city limits to West Howard Avenue. Due to the extent of construction and traffic control measures to be implemented during this phase of the construction project, significant amounts of traffic are anticipated to be diverted around the local street system.

The City of Milwaukee, in an effort to minimize impacts of traffic diverted from the freeway and reconstructed bridges over the freeway on local businesses and residents, has requested and received the attached traffic mitigation agreement from the WisDOT to be executed by the City of Milwaukee. Mitigation measures to be implemented by the City of Milwaukee include traffic signal system operational improvements and timing modifications, traffic signing and pavement marking alterations, pedestrian facility and crosswalk alterations, bicycle route alterations and attendance by City staff at construction project meetings. The WisDOT will provide 100% reimbursement of actual costs for services and items provided by the City of Milwaukee as traffic mitigation measures, including the cost of restoration of the system to normal conditions at the end of this phase of construction.

We have prepared and recommend adoption of the attached resolution authorizing and directing the Commissioner of Public Works to execute the Traffic Mitigation Agreement. The resolution also authorizes and directs the City Comptroller to transfer funds to the project sub-account for the estimated costs of various mitigation activities by the Department of Public Works.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey S. Polenske, P.E.
City Engineer

Jeffrey J. Mantes
Commissioner of Public Works

MDL: ns
Attachment